

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE

JOHN F. SLATER FUND

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF FREEDMEN

1883

BALTIMORE
JOHN MURPHY & CO
1883

TRUSTEES.

Hon. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, LL. D.

President.

Chief Justice MORRISON R. WAITE, LL. D.

Vice-President.

DANIEL C. GILMAN, LL. D.

Secretary.

MORRIS K. JESUP, Esq.

Treasurer.

JOHN A. STEWART, Esq.

WILLIAM E. DODGE, Esq.

Hon. ALFRED H. COLQUITT.

Rev. JAMES P. BOYCE, D. D.

Rev. PHILLIPS BROOKS, D. D.*

WILLIAM A. SLATER, Esq.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Executive:

HON. R. B. HAYES, Chairman.

HON. A. H. COLQUITT.

HON. M. R. WAITE.

REV. J. P. BOYCE.

DANIEL C. GILMAN.

Finance:

JOHN A. STEWART.

WILLIAM E. DODGE.

MORRIS K. JESUP.

GENERAL AGENT:

Rev. A. G. HAYGOOD, D. D., Oxford, Georgia,

To whom letters may be addressed.

*One of the original incorporators who has asked to be excused from serving because of his prolonged absence from this country.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE
JOHN F. SLATER FUND.

THIRD MEETING.

THE third meeting of the Trustees of the JOHN F. SLATER FUND was held, by call of the President, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York, April 25 and 26, 1883. All the members were present, except Messrs. WAITE and BROOKS. Rev. Dr. HAYGOOD, General Agent of the Board, was also present.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. BOYCE.

The President of the Board then made a statement in respect to the life and services of the late Honorable WILLIAM E. DODGE. Upon motion of Mr. STEWART, it was unanimously voted that these remarks of President HAYES be entered upon the minutes of the Board and communicated to Mrs. Dodge, with an assurance of the personal sympathy and respect of the Trustees.

REMARKS OF PRESIDENT HAYES.

Since we last met a vacancy has been created in our Board by the death of Mr. Dodge.

William E. Dodge died at his residence in New York city on Friday, February 9, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He had long been one of the famous merchants of New York. He had great foresight, untiring energy, admirable tact and judgment, and above all, unyielding honesty and fidelity to principle. Few men have the courage of their convictions in such full measure as it was possessed by Mr. Dodge. His wise and generous benevolence and his practical Christian character were known throughout his country and almost throughout the world. His charities and the selection of their objects and their distribution occupied a large share of his uncommonly busy life. He acted upon the principle that the estate with which Providence had blessed him was a trust for the benefit of his fellow men.

He will be greatly missed and deeply mourned in many circles. He was one of the first persons selected by Mr. Slater to administer the trust in charge of this Board. His interest in the success of the trust was exhibited on every fitting occasion. To attend our last meeting, held in the fall of 1882, he labored to a late hour as presiding officer at the annual meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions at Portland, Maine, and without rest hastened to this city to participate with us in the business of the John F. Slater Trust. As one of the Executive Committee, at an inclement season of the year, and while suffering from a painful injury to his knee, he traveled to Cleveland to be present at a meeting of the Committee, when his home engagements required him to travel night and day to meet them. He was also a member

of the Finance Committee of this Board, and his judgment and experience were given to its work with his accustomed fidelity and zeal. He was regarded by his associates in the Board with feelings of the profoundest respect and affection, and his death brings to us all a deep sense of personal loss. The Trustees of the John F. Slater Fund will wish to place on their records an appropriate expression of their admiration of his life and character, and of their sorrow upon the dispensation which has deprived them of his valued and powerful aid.

An election was held to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Dodge, and the ballot resulted in the unanimous choice of his son, Mr. William E. Dodge, Jr., of New York.

A letter from Chief Justice Waite was presented, explaining that he was detained by the duties of the United States Supreme Court from attending the meeting of the Trustees.

The minutes of a meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Cleveland, Ohio, October 26, 1882, were read and approved, and ordered to be entered upon the Book of Minutes of the Trustees.

The Finance Committee presented their minutes, which were read and approved.

The Treasurer also made his report, with a statement of the present condition of the Fund.

On motion of Governor COLQUITT, it was

Resolved, That this Board approve the action of the Finance Committee, as set forth in their own and the Treasurer's report, and that said reports be entered on the minutes.

On motion of Mr. STEWART, it was

Resolved, That an Auditing Committee be appointed.

The President designated as members of that committee, Messrs. Boyce and Slater.

The Board then adjourned to meet on Thursday, April 26, at 9 a. m.

THURSDAY, April 26, 1883.

The Trustees met by adjournment at 9 a. m. The same members were present as on the previous day.

A letter from Mr. Dodge, accepting the position of a Trustee, was presented, with an explanation of the reasons why he could not personally be present at this meeting. He was made a member of the Finance Committee.

Chief Justice Waite was appointed a member of the Executive Committee.

It was

Resolved, That the fiscal year of this Trust be considered as extending from September 1 to September 1, and that all annual reports be prepared on this basis.

The Auditing Committee presented their report, which was accepted and placed upon the minutes.

The General Agent submitted a detailed report, based upon a conference with the Executive Committee.

After it had been fully considered, the following resolutions were adopted :

PLAN OF OPERATION.

Resolved, That, for the present, this Board confine its aid to such schools as are best fitted to prepare young colored men and women to become useful to their race; and that institutions which give instruction in trades and other manual occupations, that will enable colored youths to make a living, and to become useful citizens, be carefully sought out and preferred in appropriations from this Fund; and that, so far as practicable, the scholars receiving aid from this foundation shall be trained to some manual occupation simultaneously with their mental and moral instruction; and that, to initiate the policy set forth in this resolution, the sum of twenty thousand dollars be appropriated and spent under the direction of the General Agent during the year 1883.

SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED FROM THE GENERAL AGENT.

Resolved, That the General Agent be requested to lay before the members of this Board, thirty days before the next meeting, a statement, in type, of his observations and conclusions on all the points which have been discussed to-day, with his recommendations for the further action of the Board.

FIRST APPROPRIATION.

Resolved, That the Treasurer be instructed to honor the drafts of the General Agent, Dr. A. G. Haygood, to the extent of twenty thousand dollars, in such amounts and at such times as he shall find necessary to carry out the objects set forth in the resolutions passed at the meeting of the Trustees held this day.

SEAL.

Resolved, That the seal, containing the portrait of Mr. J. F. Slater, and the words "Trustees of the John F. Slater

Fund," presented by the Treasurer, be adopted as the seal of this Board.

The Board then adjourned.

FOURTH MEETING.

The fourth meeting of the Trustees of the J. F. SLATER FUND was held October 16, 1883, by call of the President, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York. All the members were present, except Messrs. WAITE and BROOKS. The General Agent, Dr. HAYGOOD, was also present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The minutes of the Finance Committee were read and approved.

The report of the Treasurer was read and referred to the Auditing Committee, who were requested to examine the securities of the Trust and report upon both subjects.

ANNUAL REPORT.

It was voted that the Secretary should publish annually a report of the proceedings of the Board and should add to it the report of the Treasurer and also a copy of the Charter of the Trustees, the Founder's original letter.

It was

Resolved, That when the Trustees adjourn, they adjourn to meet at half-past three o'clock.

The Board then adjourned.

Pursuant to adjournment, the Board met at 3:30 p. m., all who were at the morning session being present, except Mr. GILMAN, who was excused on account of an important meeting in Boston.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL AGENT.

The General Agent presented and read his report as follows :

GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD :

Acting under the general instructions given me by the Board at the time of my appointment as General Agent of the "John F. Slater Fund," and guided by the suggestions of the meeting of the Board held in New York last April, I have given myself to the diligent and careful study of the subject of the education of the "lately emancipated population of the Southern States." I have surveyed the field in which we are called upon to work; have investigated the instrumentalities now available by us, and have considered the question of the methods to be adopted in endeavoring to accomplish the benevolent results contemplated by Mr. Slater in seeking to provide in part for the uplifting of the colored population of the South. I have endeavored to learn all I could by personal intercourse with those who have knowledge and experience, by correspondence with the principals of all the leading institutions engaged in the education of these needy people. Besides, I have traveled many thousands of miles, visiting leading institutions in Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. The schools in other States I expect to visit at an early day.

From many sources and from a wide field I have gathered a great mass of information. At this point I ought to say that all to whom I have applied for information have promptly and cordially done what they could to assist me. The Secretaries and Agents of Societies, already in this field, have placed their stores of information at my service. The Presidents or Principals of all the leading schools for the colored people have given me full answers to all questions submitted to them, and have, in every way, favored my investigations. The Hon. John Eaton, United States Commissioner of Education, has kindly given me aid, furnishing me many facts, essential in the consideration of the subject of my investigation, not otherwise accessible to me.

Such facts as may be pertinent to the matters under consideration at this meeting, with some conclusions that I have reached, are now respectfully submitted to your consideration.

I.—The Field and the People.

The Southern States make fifteen of the States of the Union and embrace a territory of nearly nine hundred thousand square miles. Allowing for the ordinary increase in population since the census of 1880 was taken, it is safe to say that there are now in the United States seven millions of negroes. Of these about six and a half millions are in the Southern States.

The records in the Department of Education in Washington City show that in the late slave States the total school population was, in 1881, 5,814,261. Of these 3,973,676 were white; 1,840,585 were colored children. The school age in these States averages from six to nineteen years. Of the whole number the total school enrollment was 3,034,896; of this number there were of white children 2,232,337; of

colored, 802,559. Of the total school population of 5,814,261, 2,779,365 were not enrolled—that is, they were not at school. The whites not enrolled numbered 1,741,339; the colored, 1,038,026. To give the ratios: of the entire school population 52 per cent. were enrolled; 48 per cent. were not enrolled. Of the white children, a fraction over 56 per cent. were enrolled; of the colored, a fraction over 47 per cent. In other words, nearly half the white population of school age were out of school, and more than half the colored population.

Allowing for the ordinary increase of population since 1881, it is safe to say the school population of the South is now 6,000,000. Of these about 4,000,000 are white; 2,000,000 are colored. Of the whole number about one-half are enrolled and at school—the percentage of white children enrolled being somewhat larger than that of colored children enrolled. It may well be doubted whether the increase of school attendance keeps pace with the increase of population. From 1870 to 1880 there was an increase of illiterate voters in these States of 187,671. Leaving out Delaware—hardly to be counted in these estimates—the illiterate vote increased in every one of these States. A detailed study of the figures shows that the relative increase of illiteracy is somewhat greater among the negroes.

II.—The Educational Agencies of these States.

All the Southern States have public school systems. As systems they are good—most of them being modeled after the best systems in this country. In all these States—with perhaps one exception—the school funds are disbursed without distinction of race. General Eaton's records show for 1881, 17,248 common schools for colored children in these States; normal

schools and schools for secondary instruction, 81; schools known as colleges and universities, 44. There are two schools for the deaf and dumb and blind. A few higher grade schools for colored people are located in the Northern States. It should be added that the professional schools—whether of theology, law or medicine—are for the most part departments of some of the colleges or universities.

In the South the public school term does not average more than four months, and comparatively few colored children attend school when the public school term expires. This is especially true in the rural districts, where the mass of the colored population is found. It may be doubted whether the average attendance of pupils is as much as three months for each school year.

The great need of these schools is competent teachers. This is too obvious to need argument. It would be difficult to exaggerate a statement as to the inferior quality of most of the teaching done in the public schools for colored children. With exceptions so few that they are not appreciable in any consideration of the subject that may come before this Board, the colored children are taught by colored teachers—most of them being women. A few of these teachers are well qualified—enough of them to show that this race can, with adequate advantages, furnish competent teachers for its children. The great majority of these colored teachers are very ignorant and unskilful.

In the higher grade schools most of the teachers are white people—with very rare exceptions from the Northern States.

Most of the Southern State governments have recognized the need of competent teachers for the colored children, and have made some provisions for preparing them. In most cases the States have made appropriations supplemental to the

resources of institutions established by the different churches and benevolent societies. There are a few institutions established by the State governments themselves and disconnected from any church or society.

Of the whole number of schools of higher grade, a small number only seem to offer the advantages desired by this Board in carrying out its trust. As the great end contemplated by the founder of this fund is "the uplifting of the lately emancipated population of the Southern States, and their posterity, by conferring on them the blessings of Christian education," and as the speediest method of accomplishing this result requires "the training of teachers from among the people requiring to be taught," as suggested by Mr. Slater, it seems clear to me that sound policy indicates that this Board should confine its operations to those institutions that are found to be most capable of training suitable teachers.

Of all of the schools of higher grade in the South related to the work of this Board, I may say, without exception, they all desire and need assistance. Moreover, most of them deserve it. But my investigations—whether made by correspondence, personal conference with those most experienced in this work, or conducted on the ground in the careful inspection of the institutions I have visited—confirm me in the opinion, heretofore expressed to the Board, that we will accomplish the best results by concentrating the funds, available for the forwarding of this work, upon a comparatively small number of institutions.

III.—Industrial Training.

Investigation shows that only a small number of the higher grade schools for colored youth have made any experiments in connecting handicraft training with instruction in books. With

the work done by the Hampton Institute, under the direction of General Armstrong, the Board is familiar. The results accomplished at this institution have called attention to the desirableness and practicability of making instruction in books coincident with industrial training. It is proper to say that some of the most experienced workers in this field are not convinced of the wisdom of making industrial training an important feature in their plans and efforts. Many, equally experienced, entertain no doubts on this subject. They believe that industrial training is not only desirable as affording the means of making a more self-reliant and self-supporting population, but necessary as furnishing some of the conditions of the best intellectual and moral discipline of the colored people—especially of those who are to be the teachers and guides of their people. In this opinion your Agent entirely concurs.

In some of these institutions hopeful beginnings have been made in the introduction of industrial departments. Schools of carpentry have been introduced with good results in a few of them. Some have introduced forges and turning lathes; tentative efforts in shoe-making and cabinet work have been made in a few institutions; two or three have accomplished much in brick-making; a number have made some progress in farm work. There is not much opportunity for diversified instruction in handicraft in the schools for colored girls; most of the schools, however, seek to teach them all that belongs to housekeeping and home-making, and with encouraging results.

I find a growing conviction of the utility—not to say necessity—of industrial training. I believe that nearly all of the best institutions are now ready, so far as their opinion of its utility is concerned, to begin work in the direction indicated by the Board at its meeting last April. Without exception they lack the necessary means to erect and equip industrial

departments. This fact I commend to the earnest consideration of the Board. How far may your Agent go in aiding the institutions, selected from the whole number, in setting their industrial departments in operation? In using the \$20,000 appropriated last April I have, in some cases, as reported in another paper, given or promised some aid to institutions in equipping industrial departments. Some appropriations I have made conditioned upon the raising of funds by their friends, in some cases seeking to co-operate with the communities in which they were located.

IV.—Suggestions as to the Policy of the Board.

The more I have investigated the subjects referred to me, the more I have explored the field in which our work is to be done, the more impracticable has it appeared to me to suggest any clearly defined rules by which appropriations may be made. The conditions are so diverse that what seems wisest in relation to one institution does not suit the circumstances of another. In some institutions we can do the greatest good, as it appears to me, by a general appropriation; in others by assuming the support of an instructor in the normal department; in others by supplementing the salary paid—inadequate in all of them; in others by paying the salary of an instructor in the industrial department; in others by offering “student aid;” in some by helping them to equip, with suitable tools, their industrial departments. Your Agent regrets the impracticability of suggesting any absolute rules for determining the making of appropriations; such rules would save him embarrassment and many grave responsibilities. It may be that after the experiment has made further progress most of the difficulties, growing out of diverse conditions in the institutions aided by the Slater Fund, will vanish.

As to the general policy of the Board I respectfully suggest in addition to the general views suggested in the foregoing paragraphs :

1. That a sum not to exceed.....dollars per annum may be used for the benefit of students who show exceptional gifts and promise of usefulness.

2. That a sum not to exceed.....dollars may be used by the Agent in aiding suitable young men who seek to prepare themselves for the practice of medicine among their people.

3.—That the Board consider whether it is advisable to establish a rule that may determine the proportion of a given sum appropriated to any institution that may be used for “student aid.”

Earnestly desiring all the aid and advice that the Board can give me, and wishing that the Board may see its way to determining more definitely than I have been able to suggest, the principle of making appropriations to schools that may be aided by the “John F. Slater Fund,”

I am, very respectfully,

ATTICUS G. HAYGOOD,

General Agent.

NEW YORK, *October 16, 1883.*

AID IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES.

After a full discussion of this report, the Board filled the blank in Item No. 1, at its close, with one thousand dollars, and accordingly it was

Resolved, That a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars per annum may be used for the benefit of young men who show exceptional gifts and promise of usefulness; and the General Agent is directed to exercise the utmost care in select-

ing beneficiaries, in order to secure, as far as possible, from such persons, the best results in usefulness to their race.

AID TO STUDENTS OF MEDICINE.

The blank in Item No. 2 was also filled by the Board with one thousand dollars, and it was accordingly

Resolved, That a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars may be used by the General Agent in aiding suitable young men who seek to prepare themselves for the practice of medicine among their people.

The Board declined to take any action as to Item No. 3.

GENERAL APPROPRIATION.

The following resolutions were adopted, on motion of Mr. JESUP :

Whereas, About the sum of four thousand dollars remains unappropriated from the amount placed to the credit of the General Agent in April last ;

Resolved, That the further sum of twenty thousand dollars be placed subject to the order of the General Agent, for the year ending September 1, 1884, to be used by him in carrying out the object of this Trust, as expressed in the resolution passed this day.

Resolved, That a further sum of twenty thousand dollars be placed under the control of the Finance Committee, to be used by them, if they deem best, on the application of the General Agent showing the necessity of further appropriations to carry on the work.

Resolved, That all gifts exceeding five hundred dollars to any institution shall be appropriated for some special purpose,—that being in accordance with the principles adopted by the Board,—and that the beneficiaries of the Fund receiving “Student Aid” shall in all cases, if practicable, be pledged to make use of their education and knowledge among the people of their own race in the South.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS EXPECTED.

On motion of Mr. DODGE, it was

Resolved, That, in the opinion of the Board, in all cases where appropriations are made to schools, colleges, or institutions for other purposes than “Student Aid,” it is particularly desirable to make such appropriations dependent upon a like or larger sum being raised for the same specific purpose by the parties interested.

NO APPROPRIATION FOR THE PAYMENT OF DEBTS.

It was further

Resolved, That no money appropriated by the General Agent be used for the payment of debts due by institutions aided by this Fund; and that no money be appropriated to institutions that are not, with good reason, believed to be on a permanent basis.

The Auditing Committee presented their report, and the same was ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

The Board then adjourned.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

Cash received and disbursed by the Treasurer to the close of the first full fiscal year, August 31, 1883.

RECEIPTS.	PAYMENTS.
For the Fund.\$1,000,000 00	For \$955,000 Bonds, (as per Ledger)....\$ 917,672 43
From Premiums on Bonds Sold..... 13,791 22	For Premiums on Bonds bought. 28,750 00
From accrued interest on Bonds sold..... 15,628 36	For accrued interest on Bonds bought... 16,221 70
From Income..... 62,631 67	For Expenses..... 3,435 60
	Total..... \$966,079 73
	Cash on deposit..... 125,971 52
\$1,092,051 25	\$1,092,051 25

Statement at the close of the first full fiscal year, August 31, 1883.

RESOURCES.	LIABILITIES.
\$955,000 Bonds, (as per Ledger).....\$ 917,672 43	The Fund.....\$1,000,000 00
Accrued interest on \$70,000 Bonds, bo't July 23d..... 593 34	Income Account, Cr.. 44,237 29
Cash on deposit..... 125,971 52	
\$1,044,237 29	\$1,044,237 29
Interest accrued but not due, \$9,274.94.	

Memoranda.

Annual Income from \$855,000 6 per cent. Bonds.....	\$51,300
“ “ “ \$100,000 5 per cent. Bonds.....	5,000
	\$56,300

APPROPRIATIONS

MADE BY THE GENERAL AGENT PRIOR TO OCTOBER 16, 1883.

To Clark University, Atlanta, Ga.,						
Rev. E. O. Thayer, President,	-	-	-	-	-	\$2,000 00
Lewis High School, Macon, Ga.,						
W. A. Hodges, Principal,	-	-	-	-	-	200 00
Tuskegee Normal School, Tuskegee, Ala.,						
Rev. B. T. Washington, Principal,	-	-	-	-	-	100 00
Tougaloo University, Tougaloo, Miss.,						
Rev. G. Stanley Pope, President,	-	-	-	-	-	1,000 00
Le Moyne Institute, Memphis, Tenn.,						
A. J. Steele, Principal,	-	-	-	-	-	500 00
Claffin University, Orangeburg, S. C.,						
Rev. Dr. E. Cooke, President,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga.,						
Rev. E. A. Ware, President,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Talladega College, Talladega, Ala.,						
Rev. H. S. De Forest, President,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C.,						
Rev. H. M. Tupper, President,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.,						
Gen. S. C. Armstrong, President,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Atlanta Baptist Female Seminary, Atlanta, Ga.,						
Miss S. B. Packard, Principal,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000 00
Austin High School, Knoxville, Tenn.,						
Miss E. L. Austin, Superintendent,	-	-	-	-	-	450 00

LETTER
OF
THE FOUNDER.

To Messrs. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, of Ohio; MORRISON R. WAITE, of the District of Columbia; WILLIAM E. DODGE, of New York; PHILLIPS BROOKS, of Massachusetts; DANIEL C. GILMAN, of Maryland; JOHN A. STEWART, of New York; ALFRED H. COLQUITT, of Georgia; MORRIS K. JESUP, of New York; JAMES P. BOYCE, of Kentucky; and WILLIAM A. SLATER, of Connecticut:

GENTLEMEN: It has pleased God to grant me prosperity in my business, and to put it into my power to apply to charitable uses a sum of money so considerable as to require the counsel of wise men for the administration of it.

It is my desire at this time to appropriate to such uses the sum of one million of dollars (\$1,000,000.00); and I hereby invite you to procure a charter of incorporation under which a charitable fund may be held exempt from taxation, and under which you shall organize; and I intend that the corporation, as soon as formed, shall receive this sum in trust to apply the income of it according to the instructions contained in this letter.

The general object which I desire to have exclusively pursued, is the uplifting of the lately emancipated population of the Southern States, and their posterity, by conferring on them the blessings of Christian education. The disabilities formerly suffered by these people, and their singular patience and fidelity in the great crisis of the nation, establish a just claim on the sympathy and good will of humane and patriotic men. I cannot but feel the compassion that is due in view of their prevailing ignorance which exists by no fault of their own.

But it is not only for their own sake, but also for the safety of our common country, in which they have been invested with equal political rights, that I am desirous to aid in providing them with the means of such education as shall tend to make them good men and good citizens—education in which the instruction of the mind in the common branches of secular learning shall

be associated with training in just notions of duty toward God and man, in the light of the Holy Scriptures.

The means to be used in the prosecution of the general object above described, I leave to the discretion of the corporation; only indicating, as lines of operation adapted to the present condition of things, the training of teachers from among the people requiring to be taught, if, in the opinion of the corporation, by such limited selection the purposes of the trust can be best accomplished; and the encouragement of such institutions as are most effectually useful in promoting this training of teachers.

I am well aware that the work herein proposed is nothing new or untried. And it is no small part of my satisfaction in taking this share in it, that I hereby associate myself with some of the noblest enterprises of charity and humanity, and may hope to encourage the prayers and toils of faithful men and women who have labored and are still laboring in this cause.

I wish the corporation which you are invited to constitute, to consist at no time of more than twelve members, nor less than nine members for a longer time than may be required for the convenient filling of vacancies, which I desire to be filled by the corporation, and when found practicable, at its next meeting after the vacancy may occur.

I designate as the first President of the corporation the Honorable RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, of Ohio. I desire that it may have power to provide from the income of the Fund, among other things, for expenses incurred by members in the fulfillment of this trust, and for the expenses of such officers and agents as it may appoint, and generally to do all such acts as may be necessary for carrying out the purposes of this trust. I desire, if it may be, that the corporation may have full liberty to invest its funds according to its own best discretion, without reference to or restriction by any laws or rules, legal or equitable, of any nature, regulating the mode of investment of trust funds; only I wish that neither principal nor income be expended in land or buildings, for any other purpose than that of safe and productive investment for income. And I hereby discharge the corporation and its individual members, so far as it is in my power so to do, of all responsibility, except for the faithful administration of this trust, according to their own honest understanding and best judgment. In particular, also, I wish to relieve them of any pretended claim on the part of any person, party, sect, institution, or locality, to benefactions from this Fund, that may be put forward on any ground whatever; as I wish every expenditure to be determined solely by the convictions of the corporation itself as to the most useful disposition of its gifts.

I desire that the doings of the corporation each year be printed and sent to each of the State Libraries in the United States, and to the Library of Congress.

In case the capital of the Fund should become impaired, I desire that a part of the income, not greater than one-half, be invested, from year to year, until the capital be restored to its original amount.

I purposely leave to the corporation the largest liberty of making such changes in the methods of applying the income of the Fund as shall seem from

time to time best adapted to accomplish the general object herein defined. But being warned by the history of such endowments that they sometimes tend to discourage rather than promote effort and self-reliance on the part of beneficiaries; or to inure to the advancement of learning instead of the dissemination of it; or to become a convenience to the rich instead of a help to those who need help; I solemnly charge my Trustees to use their best wisdom in preventing any such defeat of the spirit of this trust; so that my gift may continue to future generations to be a blessing to the poor.

If, at any time after the lapse of thirty-three years from the date of this foundation, it shall appear to the judgment of three-fourths of the members of this corporation that, by reason of a change in social conditions, or by reason of adequate and equitable public provision for education, or by any other sufficient reason, there is no further serious need of this Fund in the form in which it is at first instituted, I authorize the corporation to apply the capital of the Fund to the establishment of foundations subsidiary to then already existing institutions of higher education, in such wise as to make the educational advantages of such institutions more freely accessible to poor students of the colored race.

It is my wish that this trust be administered in no partisan, sectional, or sectarian spirit, but in the interest of a generous patriotism and an enlightened Christian faith; and that the corporation about to be formed may continue to be constituted of men distinguished either by honorable success in business, or by services to literature, education, religion, or the state.

I am encouraged to the execution in this charitable foundation of a long cherished purpose, by the eminent wisdom and success that has marked the conduct of the Peabody Education Fund in a field of operation not remote from that contemplated by this trust. I shall commit it to your hands, deeply conscious how insufficient is our best forecast to provide for the future that is known only to God; but humbly hoping that the administration of it may be so guided by divine wisdom, as to be, in its turn, an encouragement to philanthropic enterprise on the part of others, and an enduring means of good to our beloved country and to our fellow-men.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
your friend and fellow-citizen,

JOHN F. SLATER.

NORWICH, CONN., March 4, 1882.

CHARTER
FROM THE
STATE OF NEW YORK.

APPROVED APRIL 28TH, 1882.

AN ACT to Incorporate the Trustees of the John F. Slater Fund.

Whereas, Messrs. RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, of Ohio, MORRISON R. WAITE, of the District of Columbia, WILLIAM E. DODGE, of New York, PHILLIPS BROOKS, of Massachusetts, DANIEL C. GILMAN, of Maryland, JOHN A. STEWART, of New York, ALFRED H. COLQUITT, of Georgia, MORRIS K. JESUP, of New York, JAMES P. BOYCE, of Kentucky, and WILLIAM A. SLATER, of Connecticut, have, by their memorial, represented to the Senate and Assembly of this State that a letter has been received by them from JOHN F. SLATER, of Norwich, in the State of Connecticut, of which the following is a copy:

[Here the letter printed on the preceding pages of this pamphlet is inserted.]

And whereas, said memorialists have further represented that they are ready to accept said trust and receive and administer said fund, provided a charter of incorporation is granted by this State, as indicated in said letter;

Now, therefore, for the purpose of giving full effect to the charitable intentions declared in said letter;

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SEC. 1. Rutherford B. Hayes, Morrison R. Waite, William E. Dodge, Phillips Brooks, Daniel C. Gilman, John A. Stewart, Alfred H. Colquitt, Morris K. Jesup, James P. Boyce, and William A. Slater are hereby created a body politic and corporate by the name of THE TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN F. SLATER FUND, and by that name shall have perpetual succession; said original incorporators electing their associates and successors, from time to

time, so that the whole number of corporators may be kept at not less than nine nor more than twelve.

Said corporation may hold and manage, invest and reinvest all property which may be given or transferred to it for the charitable purposes indicated in said letter, and shall, in so doing, and in appropriating the income accruing therefrom, conform to and be governed by the directions in said letter contained; and such property and all investments and reinvestments thereof, excepting real estate, shall, while owned by said corporation and held for the purposes of said trust be exempt from taxation of any and every nature.

SEC. 2. Rutherford B. Hayes, of Ohio, shall be the first President of the corporation, and it may elect such other officers and hold such meetings, whether within or without this State, from time to time, as its by-laws may authorize or prescribe.

SEC. 3. Said corporation shall annually file with the Librarian of this State a printed report of its doings during the preceding year.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

BY-LAWS.

Adopted May 18, 1882.

1. The officers of the Board shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, chosen from the members, and a General Agent. These officers shall serve until death, resignation, or removal for cause, and vacancies when they occur shall be filled by ballot.

2. There shall be appointed at each annual meeting a Finance Committee and an Executive committee. The Finance Committee shall consist of three, and the Executive Committee of five, the President of the Board being ex-officio one of the five.

3. The annual meeting of the Board shall be held at such place in the City of New York as shall be designated by the Board, or the President, on the first Thursday following the first Wednesday of October in each year. Special meetings may be called by the President or the Executive Committee at such times and places as in their judgment may be necessary.

4. A majority of the members of the Board shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

5. In case of the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform his duties.

6. The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board which shall be annually published for general distribution.

7. The Executive Committee, in connexion with the General Agent, shall be charged with the duty of carrying out the resolutions and orders of the Board as the same are from time to time adopted. Three shall constitute a quorum for business.

8. The Finance Committee, in connexion with the Treasurer, shall have charge of the moneys and securities belonging to the fund with authority to invest and reinvest the moneys and dispose of the securities at their discretion, subject, however, at all times to the instructions of the Board. All securities belonging to the trust shall stand in the name of "THE TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN F. SLATER FUND," and be transferred only by the Treasurer when authorized by a resolution of the Finance Committee.

9. The General Agent, in connexion with the Executive Committee, shall be charged with the duty of carrying out the designs of the trust under the instructions which may from time to time be given by the Board.

10. The Secretary of the Board shall be, ex-officio, Secretary of the Executive Committee.

11. In case of the absence or disability of the Treasurer, the Finance Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy temporarily, and in like manner the Executive Committee may fill the place of General Agent if necessary.

12. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by ballot, and a vote of two-thirds of all the members shall be necessary for an election.

13. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any annual or special meeting by the vote of two-thirds of all the members of the Board.

